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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP PO BOX 51418 PALO ALTO, CA 94303			EXAMINER PARK, ILWOO	
			ART UNIT 2182	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 02/22/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/671,981	Applicant(s) DO ET AL.	
	Examiner ILWOO PARK	Art Unit 2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 4-10, and 14 are amended claim 2 is canceled, and claim 16 is added in response to the last office action. Claims 1 and 3-16 are presented for examination. Pleso was cited in the last office action.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1 and 3-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lada et al. [US 7,269,746 B1].

As for claim 1, Lada et al teach a method for automatically determining a configuration of an I/O connector panel [option pack; fig. 3] coupled to a system [main unit; fig. 2], the method comprising:

providing information [col. 14, lines 52-55; col. 16, lines 7-10] about the capabilities of the I/O connector panel to a memory [EEPROM 104] within the I/O connector panel, prior to connecting one or more peripherals [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20] to the I/O connector panel;

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examining [col. 16, lines 10-14] the information in the memory; and
downloading [col. 16, lines 14-16] at least one driver to the system coupled to the I/O connector panel based upon the examined information.

5. As for claim 3, Lada et al teach the downloading step is provided by software that is independent of the type of I/O connector panel ["device manager" in col. 16, lines 14-16].

6. As for claims 4 and 7, Lada et al teach the system includes a core PC function block that is configured independently of the I/O connector panel [e.g., handheld computers or PDAs in col. 1, lines 24-26; processor 60 in fig.2].

7. As for claim 5, Lada et al teach an I/O connector panel [option pack; fig. 3] comprising:

a plurality of I/O connectors [slot sockets 94,95 in fig. 3]; and
a memory [EEPROM 104] containing information [col. 14, lines 52-55; col. 16, lines 7-10] about the capabilities of the I/O connector panel, prior to connecting one or more peripherals [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20] to the I/O connector panel;
wherein, when the memory is examined [col. 16, lines 10-14], at least one driver can be downloaded [col. 16, lines 14-16] to a system [main unit; fig. 2] coupled to the I/O connector panel.

8. As for claims 6 and 11, Lada et al teach the memory comprising an EEPROM [EEPROM 104].

9. As for claims 8 and 12, Lada et al teach a connector logic coupled to the memory for I/O distribution [e.g., microcontroller 88a in fig. 5].

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10. As for claims 9, 13, and 15, Lada et al teach the memory contains attributes of the I/O connector panel and attributes of each connector installed on the connector panel [col. 21, lines 1-20].

11. As for claim 10, Lada et al teach a processing system comprising:

a core PC function [e.g., handheld computers or PDAs in col. 1, lines 24-26; processor 60 in fig.2]; and

at least one I/O connector panel [option pack; fig. 3] coupled to the core PC function, the at least one I/O connector panel comprising:

a plurality of I/O connectors [slot sockets 94,95 in fig. 3]; and

a memory [EEPROM 104] containing information [col. 14, lines 52-55; col. 16, lines 7-10] about the capabilities of the I/O connector panel, prior to connecting one or more peripherals [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20], wherein, when the memory is examined [col. 16, lines 10-14], at least one driver can be downloaded [col. 16, lines 14-16] to the core PC function coupled to the I/O connector panel.

12. As for claim 16, Lada et al teach connecting the one or more peripherals to the I/O connector panel [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20].

13. As for claim 14, Lada et al teach a processing system comprising:

a core PC function [e.g., handheld computers or PDAs in col. 1, lines 24-26; processor 60 in fig.2]; and

a plurality of I/O connector panels [e.g., "option packs to the main unit" in col. 3, lines 14-16] coupled to the core PC function, each of the plurality of I/O connector panels comprising:

a plurality of I/O connectors [slot sockets 94,95 in fig. 3], an memory [EEPROM 104] containing information [col. 14, lines 52-55; col. 16, lines 7-10] about the capabilities of the I/O connector panel prior to connecting one or more peripherals [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20], wherein, when the memory is examined [col. 16, lines 10-14], at least one driver can be downloaded [col. 16, lines 14-16] to the core PC function coupled to the I/O connector panel; and

connector logic coupled to the memory for I/O distribution [e.g., microcontroller 88a in fig. 5].

Conclusion

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ilwoo Park whose telephone number is (571) 272-4155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30

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PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Tsai can be reached on (571) 272-4176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ILWOO PARK
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Ilwoo Park

February 12, 2008